DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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Fresno County Sheriff's Department Awarded \$124,212 Grant to Fight Alcohol-Related Crime

Fresno – Fresno County Sheriff Margaret Mims today announced that her Department has been awarded \$124,000 to attack alcohol-related issues in the county. The grant comes from the California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Grant Assistance Program (GAP). Fresno County is one of 38 local law enforcement agencies funded through the program in California.

"It is so important to increase protection for youth and to shut down problem locations that have contributed to an increase in crime," said Sheriff Mims. "This grant money will provide necessary resources to increase the quality of life in many communities where we provide services."

"We've seen a real difference in the communities where the grant program resources have been invested," said Christine Weldon, ABC Fresno County District Administrator. "The partnership between ABC and the Fresno County Sheriff's Department is a strong one, and the grant program will make a real difference in preventing and addressing alcohol-related issues this next year."

The GAP Program was created in 1995 to strengthen partnerships between ABC and local law enforcement agencies in order to put bad operators out of business, keep alcohol away from minors and bring penalties such as fines, suspensions or revocations against businesses that violate the law.

The funds will be used to reduce the number of alcoholic beverage sales to minors, obviously intoxicated patrons, illegal solicitations of alcohol, and other criminal activities such as illegal drugs.

For a list of grant agencies, go to the ABC web site at www.abc.ca.gov., and click on ABC Special Programs.